



The Aruba Wine, Food & Art Festival II is on its way!

The three days of the 2005 Aruba Wine, Food & Art Festival was so much fun and such a success that organizers felt that it required repeating! Not only did everyone enjoy themselves so much last year, they also learned a great deal about fine food, wine and art, and this year's festival will certainly even improve on this wonderful event.

During a press conference in the Buena Vista room of the Wyndham Resort, Spa & Casino, hosts for this fabulous event, festival organizers Frans Sydow, Food and Beverage manager and Rona Coster, hostess extraordinaire introduced the chefs and artists that will make this year's event even more memorable.

Wyndham Executive Chef Gerard Costa, originally from France and a veteran of some of the finest restaurants welcomed the other participating chefs from Chez Mathilde, Hostaria da Vittorio, Le Dome, Trattoria Faro Blanco, Aqua Grill, Flying Fishbone and Ventanas del Mar to meet the press.

Attendance to the Festival is open to all, and will begin on Thursday, May 4 at 6:00 P.M. with a Wine and Food Tasting in the Palm Beach Ballroom that will feature delights from each of the above mentioned chefs. For a modest \$20 entry fee one will have the opportunity to taste and comment on more than sixty varieties of wine from the USA, Italy, Australia, France, Chile and Argentina, and enjoy a surfeit of gourmet cuisine. The art exhibition officially opens at this time, so while sipping and sampling, attendees can also admire works by local artists of international repute that can be purchased at auction on Saturday May 6th. Stan Kuiperi, whose works will also be on display, is curator for the collection, and Kenneth Faustin, a local businessman and a certified auctioneer, will conduct the auction on Saturday night.

Friday night, May 5 will feature the Ceviche Festival from 6:30 to 11:00 P.M. on the beautiful pool deck of the Wyndham Resort. It will start with cocktails by the pool and a performance by Aruba's gold medal winning synchronized swimming team The Barracudas. A giant seafood and ice sculpture display on the beach will offer the delicacy of ceviche as prepared by visiting celebrity chef Guillermo Perno, part of a gourmet dinner, and will be paired with the perfect selection of wines provided by Romar Trading. This event is \$85 dollars per person, including a night of Beach Boys Mania from the band EA of Venezuela. So get ready to go barefoot and twist the night away!

Last year's final night was an exciting evening to remember, so organizers are repeating and improving on success. An elegant dinner beginning at 7:00 P.M., followed by a live concert tribute to Earth, Wind, and Fire will be a night to remember. As with last year, a collection of the finest Moet and Chandon champagnes will be paired with an elegant menu created by celebrity chef Michael Cressoti of SushiSamba in New York City. Each dish of this five-course meal will be paired with the perfect champagne to enhance the enjoyment of a gourmet delight. This event takes a limited number of attendees, and tickets for the dinner and concert combined are \$120 per person. Tickets are available through the Wine Club of Aruba and at a special desk in the lobby of the Wyndham Aruba Resort, Spa & Casino. Separate tickets for the concert by EA of Venezuela that begins at 10:30 P.M. are for sale for \$20 per person.

The Aruba Wine, Food & Art Festival at the Wyndham Resort is a collection of events that epitomize what most would consider the finer things in life; a tribute to fine food, vintage wine and beautiful art. There is wonderful music and good company, and a chance to savor over three days all that adds zest and sparkle to not only a vacation, but our everyday lives. It is a rare opportunity to find it all at very reasonable prices, and promises three days of events that will stimulate all the senses. It only happens once a year, so if you are one of those fortunate enough to be here, it should not be missed!